



## Commander's Hazing Policy Statement



The Marines, Sailors, and the families of 1/3 are our most valuable asset, and as such, every member of this team will be treated with dignity and respect.

Per Marine Corps Order (MCO 1700.28), hazing is defined as any conduct whereby one military member, regardless of Service or rank, causes another military member, regardless of Service or rank, to suffer or be exposed to an activity which is cruel, abusive, humiliating, or oppressive. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any form of initiation or congratulatory act that involves physically striking another to inflict pain, piercing another's skin in any manner, verbally berating another, encouraging another to excessively consume alcohol, or encouraging another to engage in illegal, harmful demeaning or dangerous acts.

Soliciting or coercing another to participate in any such activity is also considered hazing. Hazing need not involve physical contact among or between military members; it can be verbal or psychological in nature.

**Hazing is prohibited.** No Marine or Sailor may engage in hazing or consent to acts of hazing being committed upon them. No one in a supervisory position may, by act, word, or omission, condone or ignore hazing if he or she knows or reasonably should have known that hazing may occur. The victim's consent to hazing is not a defense for violating this order.

More specifically, no Marine or Sailor will direct – verbal or implied – any other Marine or Sailor to perform any form of incentive PT. No Marine or Sailor will direct – verbal or implied – any other Marine or Sailor to undergo any type of “rite of passage” to any unit or organization. It is every Marine's and Sailor's duty to immediately report any allegations or indications of hazing and there should be no fear of reprisal for doing so.

1st Battalion, 3d Marines will investigate all allegations of hazing and take appropriate action on substantiated allegations. Leaders will ensure victims of hazing are safeguarded and provided appropriate assistance as required. **Bottom-line, I have a zero tolerance policy, and violators will be prosecuted.**

J. SALAME